(c) to (e). NABARD has reported that a representation was received by them in December 1991 urging to reduce the interest on the outstanding term loan provided for rubber plantation by a financing bank. The interest rates charged by financing bank to the ultimate borrower are according to the instructions of RBI issued from time to time. The grant of any concession/compromises over repayments are settled mutually between the financing bank and the borrower.

Imoort of Newsprint Through S.T.C.

2992. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of newsprint imported though the State Trading Corporation during 1989-90 and 1990-91 and proposed to be imported during 1991-92;

(b) the profit or loss made by the State Trading Corporation on account of the import of newspring during the above years and the estimates for the current year;

(c) whether the Government are aware that reported reduction in the import price has not yet made any impact on the retail market; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The quantity of newsprint imported by STC during the three years is as under:-

Financial Year	*Qty. in Mt Quantity*
1989-90	224,000
1990-91	226,000
1991-92 (Prov.)	215,000

(b) STC gets only a service charge at the rate of 1% of CIF cost of sales on imported newsprint for recovering overheads.

(c) and (d). STC distributes the imported newsprint at issue price fixed by the Newsprint Price Fixation Advisory Committee headed by the Secretary, Ministry of I&B to the allottees of the Newspaper Industry as decided by Registrar of Newspaper Industries. There is no statutory control over the price of indigenous newsprint.

Opening of Branches of Urban Cooperative Banks

2993. SHRIMATI RITA VERMA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has completed the work relating to scrutinising the proposals for opening of branches submitted by Urban Cooperative Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such branches proposed to be opened in each State; and

(c) if not, the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Under the Branch Licensing Programme for Urban Cooperative Banks (1991-94), 651 banks have sent applications for allotment of over 2000 branches in different States. Several applications received by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) were either incomplete or not satisfying the prescribed norms. From the eligible applications 379

branches to 304 banks have been allotted. The issue of licences by RBI to Banks is a continuous exercise and there cannot be any rigid time frame for the same.

Export of Non-Basmati Rice and Mango Pulp

2994. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines for export of non-basmati rice and mango pulp;

(b) the quantity of the above items exported during the last three years and the foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) the share of southern States in the above exports;

(d) whether the Government propose to allot quotas for non-basmati rice and Mango pulp on the basis of production and quality;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The export of non-basmati rice is allowed under Open General Licence 13, subject to Minimum Export Price of US$ 231 per MT and the quantitative ceiling placed at the disposal of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The quantitative ceiling is fixed haveing regard to the surplus available for export. The detailed guidelines are made public in APEDA's Trade Notices issued from time to time. Presently, one of the important guidelines is that in case the quantity applied for by the applicants is more than the export quota available, the allocation is made on the basis of the highest Unit Value realisation. Mango Pulp is freely allowed for export without any restrictions.

(b) The quantity of non-basmati rice and Mango Pulp exported during the last three years and the foreign exchange earned therefrom are as under:-

QTU/,TM/s/
VALUE: Rs Lakhs.

Year	*Non-basmati rice*	*Mango Pulp*
1988-89	Qty. 35753	18992
	Value 2023	2464
1989-90	Qty. 26705	36054
	Value 1636	3425
1990-91	Qty. 313718	15760
	Value 18783	2351

Source: APEDA

(c) Separate region wise data is not maintained.

(d) to (f). Government has allotted a quota of 7 lakh tonnes of Non-basmati rice for export upto 31.3.1992. Government does not allot any quota for export of Mango Pulp.

Interest on Payment of Cash Compensatory Support

2995. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN:
SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: